

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A cooking apparatus, comprising:
 - a cabinet opened at a top surface thereof to provide an opening over which food to be cooked is laid;
 - a grill unit seated in the opening of the cabinet so as to support the food over the opening;
 - a heating unit installed in the cabinet at a position offset from an effective grill part of the grill unit so that a front surface of the heating unit faces the grill unit to transmit thermal energy to the grill unit supporting the food laid thereon; and
 - a heat blocking member to block a part of the thermal energy transmitted to an edge of the grill unit, allowing the thermal energy to be uniformly transmitted to the food laid on the grill unit.
2. The cooking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the heating unit comprises:
 - a reflecting member provided at a rear portion of the heating unit to guide the thermal energy from the heating unit to the grill unit, and
 - the heat blocking member integrally extends from the reflecting member to reflect the thermal energy transmitted from the heating unit.
3. The cooking apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:
 - a reflecting plate provided at a predetermined position below the grill unit to reflect the thermal energy of the heating unit to the grill unit, so that the thermal energy reflected by the heat blocking member is guided to a central portion of the grill unit by the reflecting plate.

4. The cooking apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the heat blocking member extends to a predetermined position below the effective grill part of the grill unit so as to reflect the part of the thermal energy transmitted to the edge of the grill unit.

5. The cooking apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
a cover member extending from an edge of the opening to cover an upper surface of the heat blocking member.

6. The cooking apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the cover member is downwardly inclined so that a material dropping from the food laid on the grill unit is guided into the opening.

7. The cooking apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:
a tray provided with a reflecting plate set at a predetermined position below the opening to collect a material dropping from the food laid on the grill unit, and
an end of the cover member is positioned in a space above the tray so as to guide the material dropping from the food to the tray.

8. The cooking apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the cover member is spaced apart from the heat blocking member by a predetermined gap to provide an air layer between the cover member and the heat blocking member.

9. A cooking apparatus, comprising:
a cabinet to provide an opening over which food to be cooked is laid;
a tray to removably move in and out of the cabinet through the opening and to be received in a cavity provided in an interior of the cabinet;

a grill unit seated in the opening of the cabinet to support the food over the opening;

a plurality of heating units installed in the cabinet at positions offset from an effective grill part of the grill unit so that the heating units face the grill unit to transmit thermal energy to the grill unit supporting the food laid thereon; and

heat blocking members to block a part of the thermal energy transmitted to an edge of the grill unit, allowing the thermal energy to be uniformly transmitted to the food laid on the grill unit.

10. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, wherein each of the heating units includes a ceramic member with a heating element to generate the thermal energy.

11. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the heating units are set in both sides of the cavity, respectively, so that the front surfaces of the heating units are opposite to each other.

12. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the heating units are inclinedly arranged to tilt toward the opening to transmit the thermal energy to the grill unit.

13. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the grill unit comprises:
a plurality of water tanks respectively seated on both sides of the cabinet to contain water; and

a plurality of grill pipes arranged between the water tanks to connect the water tanks to each other, and having hollow structures so that the water is supplied thereto from the water tanks and flows therein.

14. The cooking apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the grill pipes are

continuously cooled by the water supplied by the water tanks, preventing the food supported by the grill pipes from being burnt.

15. The cooking apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the tray comprises:
a hump along a central axis thereof; and
reflecting plates respectively provided at both sides of the hump, to reflect the thermal energy from the heating units to the grill unit.

16. The cooking apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the reflecting plates are respectively provided at predetermined positions below the grill unit to reflect the thermal energy of the heating unit to the grill unit, so that the thermal energy reflected by the heat blocking members is guided to a central portion of the grill unit by the reflecting plates.

17. The cooking apparatus according to 15, further comprising:
an oil collecting grooves provided along an edge of the reflecting plates to collect oil dropping from the food which is laid on the grill unit.

18. The cooking apparatus according to claim 17, wherein a predetermined amount of water is contained in the tray to prevent an excessive rise in temperature of the oil collecting groove and the reflecting plates, preventing the oil collected in the oil collecting groove from being burnt and adhered to the tray.

19. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:
a timer switch to control an operation time of the heating units; and
a power switch to control a heating temperature of the heating units.

20. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, wherein at least one side of the heat blocking members extends in a direction beyond a point where the grill pipes bend to block the part of the thermal energy transmitted to the edge of the grill unit.